



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/550,551

03/23/2006

Alain Behar

Q90507

1903

23373 7590 08/18/2008
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20037

EXAMINER

NICHOLS II, ROBERT K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3754

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/18/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/550,551	Applicant(s) BEHAR ET AL.	
	Examiner ROBERT K. NICHOLS II	Art Unit 3754	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 September 2005 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09/26/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Preliminary Amendment

The preliminary amendment filed on 11/15/2006 has been entered.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the use of legal term “said” and “comprising” throughout the abstract. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character “6” has been used to designate both a “receptacle” and a “fastening ring”. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

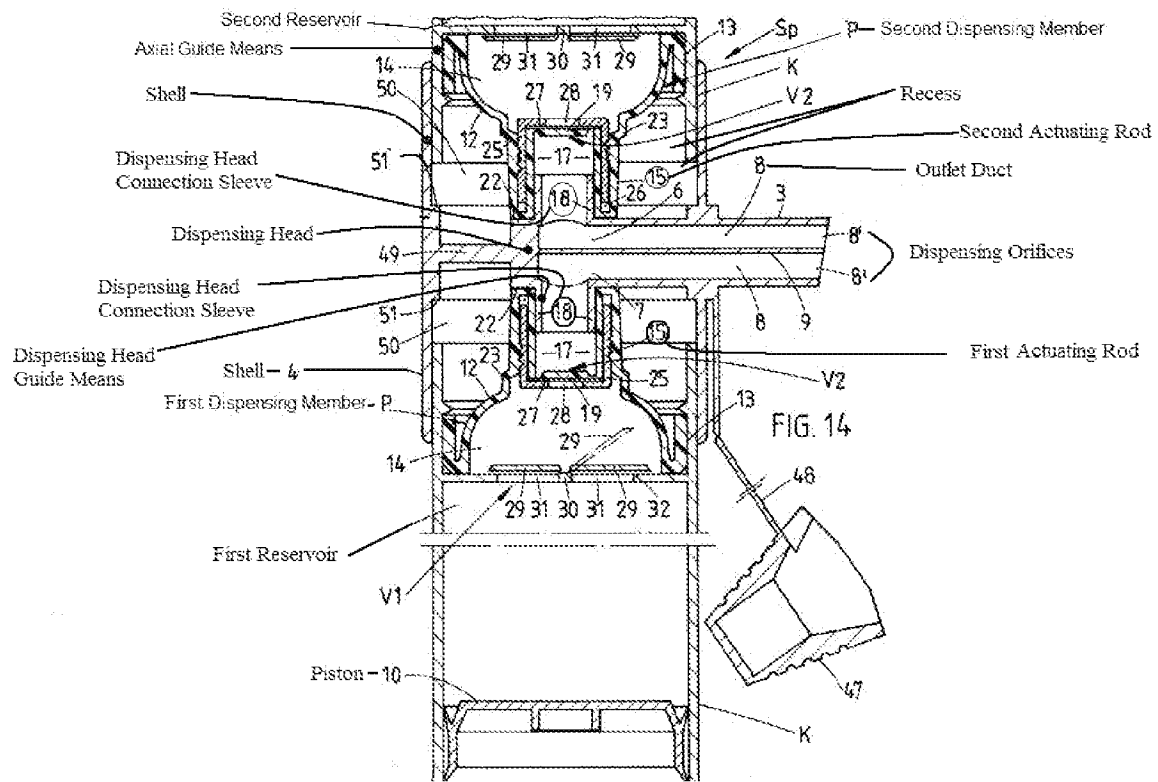
A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

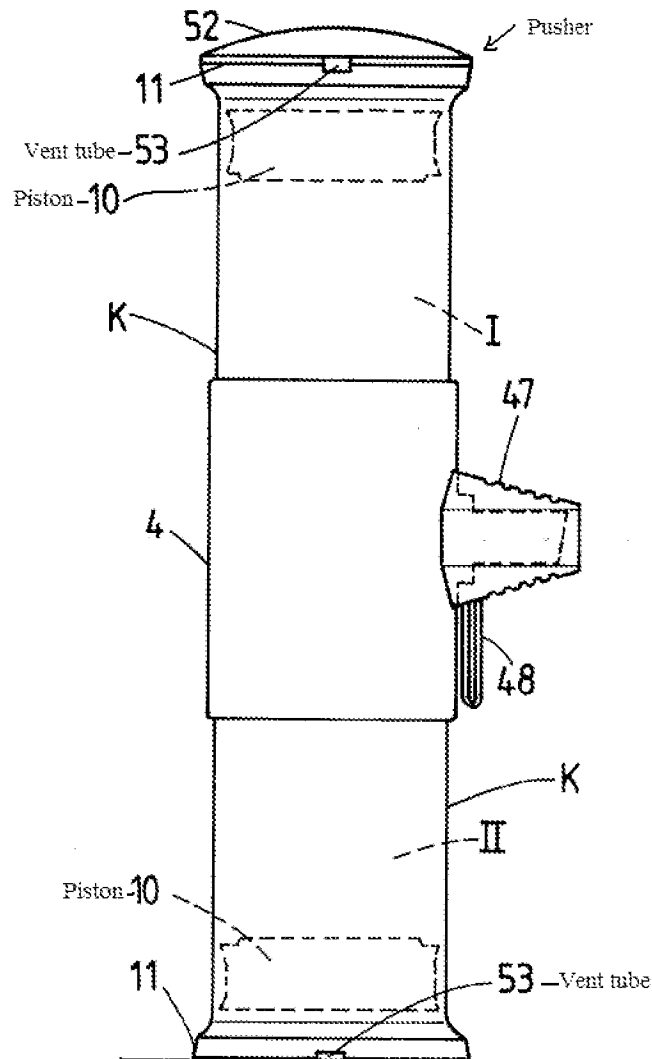
Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schuckmann (DE 93 02 196).

Regarding claims 1 and 2, Schuckmann discloses a dispenser including a first fluid dispenser member associated with a first fluid reservoir, wherein the first member includes a first actuating rod mounted to move along the rod axis between a rest position and an actuated position. Schuckmann further discloses a second fluid dispenser member associated with a second fluid reservoir, wherein the second member includes a second actuating rod mounted to move along a second rod axis between a rest position and an actuated position. Schuckmann additionally discloses that the first and second rod axes coincide (see marked-up figures 11 and 14).

Art Unit: 3754

**Marked-up Figure 14**

Schuckmann additionally discloses the first rod having a free end pointing in a first direction and a second rod having a second free end pointing in a second direction, the two members being disposed one relative to the other with the first and second rod axes extending parallel and with the first direction being opposite to the second direction, so that one dispenser member is disposed upside down relative to the other dispensing member (see marked-up figures 11 and 14).

**Marked-up Figure 11**

Furthermore, Schuckmann discloses the reservoirs to be airless reservoirs with their volumes decreasing as fluid is extracted therefrom. In addition, Schuckmann discloses one of the dispenser members to be provided with a load adjustment spring 12 suitable for modifying the actuation load of one of the dispensing members (see marked-up figure 14 and page 1 of translation).

Regarding claim 3, Schuckmann discloses a pusher mounted to move along a push axis extending parallel to the rod axes, wherein the pusher subjected to a push force urges one rod free end towards the other rod free end (see marked-up figure 11).

Regarding claim 4, Schuckmann discloses the pusher acts on the first reservoir to move it towards the other reservoir, the actuating rods of the two dispenser members remaining static relative to each other while moving together towards the reservoirs (see marked-up figures 11, 14 and figure 15).

Regarding claim 5, Schuckmann discloses the pusher forms a recess for receiving a fluid reservoir (see marked-up figure 14).

Regarding claims 6 and 7, Schuckmann discloses the pusher being provided with axial guide means for axially moving the second reservoir that it drives. Schuckmann further discloses the reservoirs being received in a shell 4, a dispenser head that is common to both of the dispenser members being mounted to slide axially in the shell 4, wherein the pusher is mounted to slide axially in the shell 4 (see marked-up figure 14).

Regarding claim 8, Schuckmann discloses the dispensing head being provided with outlet ducts opening out at a dispensing orifice opening, the head

Art Unit: 3754

having two connection sleeves communicating with the duct outlet and each receiving a respective free end of the respective actuating rods, the two sleeves being constrained to move with each other (see marked-up figure 14).

Regarding claim 9, Schuckmann discloses the dispensing head forms guide means for dispensing (see marked up figure 14).

Regarding claim 10, Schuckmann discloses one dispenser member situated above its reservoir and the other dispensing member is situated below its reservoir. Schuckmann further discloses the dispenser member situated below the reservoir being provided with a vent tube 53 that extends inside the reservoir out of the fluid (see marked-up figures 11, 14 and page 7 of translation).

Regarding claim 11, Schuckmann further discloses the dispensing members to be pumps (see page 4 of translation).

Regarding claim 12, Schuckmann discloses at least one of the reservoirs is chosen from the group formed of follower piston reservoirs and of variable-volume flexible pouches (see marked-up figure 14).

Applicant should note that reference numerals throughout claims 1-12 do not represent a positive limitation. Therefore, reference numerals throughout the noted claims have not been given patentable weight.

Art Unit: 3754

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Marand (US 3,704,812), Lo (US 5,642,059), Marraffino (US 3,357,647), Fukui (US 3,408,010) and Marand (US 3,730,392) show other fluid dispensers.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT K. NICHOLS II whose telephone number is (571)270-5312. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver can be reached on 571-272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3754

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robert K Nichols II/
Examiner, Art Unit 3754

/Frederick C. Nicolas/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3754